

REMARKS

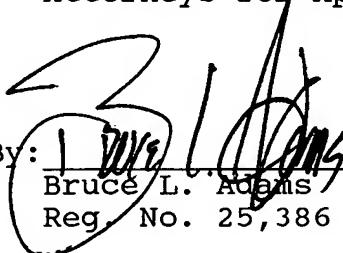
In the last Office Action, the Examiner clarified the election requirement made in the previous Office Action mailed August 10, 2005, clarifying that in a multi-tier election requirement, if a species is elected in one tier that does not then pertain to the next tier then no further selection is required.

In the present case, as noted by the Examiner, applicant has elected Species C in the first tier and has listed only claim 12 as being readable on the elected species. In such an event, no further selection is necessary in the subsequent tiers since only claim 12 is readable on elected Species C of the first tier.

Applicant and applicant's attorney appreciate the Examiner clarifying the election requirement. In view of the foregoing, early and favorable action are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Shawn Salahian

Name

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shawn Salahian".

Signature

July 5, 2006

Date